

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

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USNMR SHAPE

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CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5278

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 25 NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: A. USNATO 5209

B. NPG(STAFF GROUP)N(74)95

C. STATE 210763

SUMMARY: PORTUGUESE REPS ATTENDED SEPTEMBER 25 NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MID-JULY. GREEK REP WAS ALSO PRESENT. SG DISCUSSED THE DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON THE NPG STUDY ON COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS AND AGREED TO FINISH WORK ON THIS SUBJECT ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27. SG DISCUSSED DRAFT PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK, IN PARTICULAR THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT FOR FUTURE NPG
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ACTIVITIES. TURKISH REP RAISED THE QUESTION OF PREPARATION OF A STATUS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL ADM GUIDELINES.
END SUMMARY.

1. PORTUGUESE REP (MEIRA) SURPRISED IS AND OTHER SG REPS BY ATTENDING SEPTEMBER 25 NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING, HIS FIRST SINCE MID-JULY. HE GAVE NO ADVANCE INDICATION THAT HE WOULD RESUME PARTICIPATION IN SG ACTIVITIES. GREEK REP ALSO ATTENDED AGAIN.

2. THE SG DISCUSSED THE DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON THE NPG STUDY ON COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS TO SUE NUCLEAR WEAPONS (CNI) (REF A). SG PLANS TO COMPLETE WORK ON THE DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 SINCE CANADA, FRG, UK AND US REPS HAD NOT YET RECEIVED GUIDANCE ON THE REPORT FROM THEIR CAPITALS. OTHER DELEGATIONS INDICATED THEY COULD AGREE WITH THE APPROACH CONTAINED IN REF A.

3. THE SG DISCUSSED DRAFT PO ON THE NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM CIRCULATED BY IS (REF B, POUCHED TO STATE AND DEFENSE). SG CHAIRMAN (SHERER) CALLED ATTENTION TO SECTION 302(D) OF THE US MILITARY PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1975 (NUNN AMENDMENT) AND NOTED THAT IT COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON FUTURE NPG ACTIVITIES. HE NOTED THE PHRASE IN SECTION RING TO STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO DEVELOP A RATIONAL AND COORDINATED NUCLEAR POSTURE BY NATO. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS PHRASE IMPLIES AN OBLIGATION FOR THE US TO CONSULT WITH THE ALLIES ON STUDIES WHICH CONGRESS REQUIRES. HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE NPG WAS THE LOGICAL FORUM FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS, AND THAT HE INTERPRET THIS SUBJECT INTO CHAIRMAN'S REQUEST FOR COMMENT, US REP (WOODWORTH) SAID THE PO SHOULD NOT BECOME A QUOTE DECISION SHEET END QUOTE. RAIT SHOULD BE THE SYG'S OWN STATEMENT OF POSSIBLE NPG FUTURE WORK WHICH HE PROVIDES AS AN AID TO MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION. US REP NOTED, DRAWING ON REF C, THAT THE STUDIES WHICH SECTION 302(D) REQUIRES ARE CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AND THAT THEY WILL EXAMINE THOSE ITEMS LISTED IN REF C, PARA 1. HE SAID THAT US WOULD CONSULT FULLY WITH ALLIES ON THE RESULTS OF THE STUDIES. SG CHAIRMAN ASKED IF US REP KNEW OF US PLANS FOR CONSULTATIONS. US REP REPLIED THAT HE WAS SURE THAT WASHINGTON HAD GIVEN THE SUBJECT MUCH THOUGHT, BUT THAT HE DID NOT KNOW THE DETAILS AT THIS TIME.

4. BELGIAN REP (DE MILD) NOTED WITH RESPECT TO THE NUNN AMENDMENT
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THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE AUGUST 27 RUMSFELD LETTER TO ASGY PANSA ASSURING THAT QUOTE WE WILL KEEP YOU AND OUR ALLIES INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THE US STUDY AS THEY ARE PROVIDED TO CONGRESS END QUOTE AND THE SEPTEMBER 20 SYG LUNS LETTER TO RUMSFELD STATING QUOTE WHILE I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSURANCE THAT NATO WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF THE UNITED STATES STUDY AS PROVIDED TO CONGRESS, I HOPE THAT THERE WILL ALSO BE CLOSE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE RESPONSIBLE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES AND NATO WHILE THE STUDY IS IN PROGRESS. END QUOTE. COMMENT: MISSION IS TRANSMITTING SYG LUNS' LETTER BY SEPTTEL. END COMMENT. BELGIAN REP STATED THAT BELGIAN AMBASSADOR DE STAERKE INTENDS TO RAISE THIS QUESTION IN ORDER TO SEEK CLARIFICATION OF US INTENTIONS AT THE OCTOBER 10 PERMREPS MEETING.

5. TURKISH REP SAID IN REFERENCE TO PARA 5 OF REF B ON QUOTE
IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL ADM GUIDELINES END QUOTE THAT TURKEY
THOUGHT THAT THERE WERE NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA THAT WOULD
WARRANT THE NMA'S PREPARING A NEW STATUS REPORT AT THIS TIME.
HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW IF OTHERS HAD THIS
VIEW. COMMENT: WASHINGTON WILL RECALL THAT LAST SPRING THE US
DISCOURAGED PREPARATION OF AN ADM STATUS REPORT, AND THAT SYG LUNS'
PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK, PREPARED FOR THE BERGEN NPG MEETING
LEFT THIS QUESTION OPEN FOR SUBSEQUENT CONSIDERATION. DOES
WASHINGTON WISH TO CONTINUE TO DISCOURAGE PREPARATION OF A NEW
ADM STATUS REPORT? ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.
MC AULIFFE

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